

**July 17, 2001**

**MULTILATERAL COMMERCIALIZATION GROUP  
(MCG)**

**Charter**

**Background**

The International Space Station (ISS) represents a long-term international cooperative endeavor involving the Governments of Canada, Member States of the European Space Agency, Japan, the Russian Federation and the United States of America as established in the *Agreement Among the Government of Canada, Governments of Member States of the European Space Agency, the Government of Japan, the Government of the Russian Federation, and the Government of the United States of America Concerning Cooperation on the Civil International Space Station (IGA)* and a series of bilateral Memoranda of Understanding (MOU). The activities described in this Charter for the Multilateral Commercialization Group for (MCG) are within, and are intended to be consistent with the international cooperative framework established by the IGA and MOUs.

In view of the global nature of the ISS, the partners recognize the value of coordinated approaches to commercial development. The MCG is established by the Multilateral Coordination Board (MCB) to provide a multilateral forum where the international partners can consult and coordinate on policies and procedures related to ISS commercial development. The group will report to the Multilateral Coordination Board.

The MCG succeeds and replaces the Multilateral Consultative Working Group for Commercial Programs (MCWG-CP). The partners have agreed that the MCG succeeds the MCWG-CP in recognition of the changing focus of the group's activities and responsibilities.

**Scope**

The overall objective is to coordinate approaches to commercial activities aboard the ISS. The MCG will act as the focal point of coordination among the partnership on commercial projects to foster the greater commercial development of ISS. All recommendations made by this Group shall be taken by consensus; in case of disagreement the unresolved issue(s) will be forwarded to the MCB for resolution. Nothing in this charter shall affect the right of any Partner to utilize its allocations of ISS accommodation and resources consistent with the IGA and relevant MOUs.

The MCG in particular will be responsible for developing and maintaining recommended guidelines for commercial activities in the following five market sectors: (1) advertising, sponsorship and branding; (2) entertainment; (3) research and development; (4) merchandising; and (5) space travel (e.g. passenger flight

opportunities). These guidelines will serve as a common approach where appropriate to these issues among the partnership. These guidelines will address what type of commercial activities are inappropriate, how and when partners should coordinate with each other on potential commercial projects, and identify the rights and obligations of the other partners with respect to commercial activities undertaken by a given partner.

The MCG can formally interface with other ISS international management bodies as necessary to achieve its objectives. As interest will arise the market sectors will be extended as appropriate.

This set of recommended guidelines will be submitted to the MCB for review and approval.

### **Membership**

The MCG will be comprised of one partner representative from each of the cooperating agencies. Representatives may designate an alternate to act on their behalf in the event of schedule conflicts or travel constraints.

As needed, the members can invite technical experts or other support staff to attend meetings. All participants in MCG activities will maintain confidentiality for commercial proprietary information.

### **Meetings and Teleconferences**

Face-to-face meetings and teleconferences will be convened on an as-needed basis to be determined by the members. All formal meetings and teleconferences will be restricted to members and their necessary support personnel from the international partners; they will not be open to the private sector. Additional informal meetings of the MCG may be conducted from time-to-time with the private sector, in order to obtain private sector perspectives or to communicate the status of partner plans related to the commercial development of the ISS.

Meeting locations will rotate among the partners and be chosen by the members. The host partner for each meeting will be responsible for issuing invitations, proposing an agenda, and providing any other necessary logistical support.

The MCG member of the hosting partner will chair the meeting. NASA will provide overall Secretariat of the MCG and maintain an archive (file) of all formal MCG documents. NASA will provide copies of MCG documents to MCB members upon their request.

### **Reports**

The host partner will prepare *Summary Reports* for all formal meetings and distribute to the standing members within 30 days of the meeting. The MCG will report to the MCB upon request by the MCB.

//signed July 16, 2001//  
M. Lebeuf  
For the Canadian Space Agency

//signed July 16, 2001//  
T. Munenaga  
For Ministry of Education,  
Culture, Sports, Science and  
Technology

//signed July 16, 2001//  
J. Graf  
For the European Space Agency

//signed July 16, 2001//  
S. Chernikov  
For the Russian Aviation and  
Space Agency

//signed July 16, 2001//  
M. Uhran  
For the National Aeronautics  
and Space Administration